Fund Allocation for establishing Pesticides Residual Training Laboratory in Jaipur

†3369. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would sanction required funds for establishment of Pesticides Residual Training Laboratory at Durgapur, Jaipur in the year 2005-06; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government of Rajasthan may use the funds provided udner the Macro Management Scheme for setting up a pesticide residues testing laboratory.

Vacancies in National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology, Bangalore

3370. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sanctioned posts, both clerical and technical, lying vacant in the National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology, Bangalore; and

(b) the steps taken to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Presently one post each in clerical and technical cadre is vacant at the National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology, Bangalore.

(b) Steps have been initiated to get the vacancies filled up on priority.

Excessive use of Chemical Fertilizers and Pesticides

3371. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that many problems cropped up after the introduction of the Green Revolution, primarily due to intense use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, as per the country's reputed credit rating agency in its recent study called 'Insecticides/Pesticides-2005'

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the higher dose of pesticides coupled with repeated uses increased the production cost of cotton cultivation manifold;

(d) if so, the comments of Government thereon; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to set the situation conducive to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The injudicious and indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers & pesticides can result in harmful effect on human and animal health and the environment. If pesticides and fertilizers are used as per actual requirements and guidelines contained on their labels and leaflets, they do not cause any damage to human beings, animals or the environment. Government is, therefore, imparting training to the farmers on the safe use of pesticides and the balanced and optimum use of fertilizers.

(c) Yes, Sir, The injudicious and indiscriminate use of chemical pesticide may result in development of resistance in insect pests as a result of which insects are not killed by application of the recommended doses of pesticides and farmers have to repeat the pesticide application leading to increased cost of crop production.

(d) and (e) Government has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM), encompassing cultural, mechanical and biological methods and need based use of chemical pesticides, as the cardinal principle and main plank of plant protection in the country. Central Integrated Pest Management Centres are involved in the organization of Farmers' Field Schools in order to impart training to the farmers in IPM.